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JOSHUA LEDERBERG Joseph D. Grant Professor of Genetics

January 31, 1978

George Zeidenstein President The Population Council One Dag Hammarskjold Plaza New York, New York 10017

Dear Mr. Zeidenstein:

Thank you for your letter of January 18th which was most welcome. If you had not made this very cordial first approach, I would have taken a similar step on my own side at the earliest opportunity. I am of course quite familiar with many aspects of the important work of The Population Council, although not until now from the perspective of looking at it as an organizational entity. If you have other reports and documents, like the 25-year history mentioned in the brochure, they might be quite helpful in forming my perspective at this time.

I am glad to see many familiar names on your Board of Trustees, including Dr. Zubiran in addition to the foundation and academic types from this country. Besides the concrete research programs on which The University and The Population Council have converged, I am particularly eager that the interdisciplinary outlook and the social responsibility embodied in your programs also be communicated to our younger Fellows and faculty and The University.

More concretely, I certainly will try to find an appropriate occasion for more extensive meetings, although I will be spending very little time in New York prior to the assumption of my duties this summer. In any event I am delighted that you have helped move this item on my own agenda to these first steps; and like yourself, I look forward to the closest continued relationships between our respective institutions.

Yours sincerely,

JL:ek-f

* I do have the annual reports alway.

J. J.

Zeidenstein, C